The Local Noodle

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Vermont's Housing Crisis: Housing Costs Increase for Tall Shannon Residents

Seen by many as the perfect case study in rising Vermont housing costs, the current residents of 107 Shannon Street are reportedly paying $300 more than any other student for housing.

"Some may argue that the residents of Tall Shannon were not forced to pay an extra $300," Muck Raker '25, a reporter for the Campus, explained. "Some may even say that it was the current residents themselves who decided to pay another housing group a total of $2,400 for the privilege of being able to cheat the housing lottery. These people, while technically correct, are ignoring the bigger issue at hand: that, much like elsewhere in Vermont, the people in Tall Shannon are paying more for less."

Indeed, recent data reveals that many Vermonters are grappling with unaffordable housing and escalating prices for everyday necessities. "We're just like the rest of the struggling Vermont population," Aff Luence '24.5, current resident of Shannon, said. "We had to pay $300 a person – not including Wash&Carry and BiggaBed fees – to be able to live somewhere better than Atwater, Ridgeline, or Ross Towers. I mean, can you imagine?"

The "extra investment," as Aff Luence called it, while notorious in the spring, has since become a fact of life. Many identify the easy acceptance of using money to game the housing system as typical in a student body that is used to paying their way through life.

Said Secon Dome '25, another Shannon resident: "My parents paid for my college acceptance, so why not pay for Shannon, too?

AFC Extends Support Services to Irish and Italian Students

Confronted by the lack of Black, Indigenous, and students of color in the classes of '28 and '28.5, the Anderson Freeman Center is expanding its definition of 'minority' to better suit Middlebury's de-diversifying population.

"We want to make sure all of our incoming BIIIPOC (Black, Italian, Irish, Indigenous, and people of color) students feel a sense of belonging," stated AFC staff member Dee Ee-ai. "Being at a PWI (Predominantly WASP Institution) can feel extremely isolating for Irish and Italian American students who have not grown up in those spaces."

According to an AFC student survey, "underrepresented," "unheard," and "unwelcomed" were the three most common words used to describe the experiences of Irish and Italian American students at Middlebury. Having migrated from the villages and rolling hills of Boston's suburbs, these students bring both a domestic and international perspective to our Vermont campus. "We deserve to be seen. We deserve to be heard," stated Thad S'Amore '27.

Including Irish and Italian American students under the AFC's definition of minority has already made a difference throughout the campus. "I am incredibly grateful for the AFC because I just couldn't see myself trying to join other white affinity groups like the Scandinavian Club or the Mountain Club," said Bing Badaboom '27.5.

To better serve the campus's Irish and Italian American communities, the AFC is preparing an extensive program (programma/clar oibre) to show support for these students including a plastic furniture cover giveaway, a rosary decorating night, as well as a safe space for sons whose moms watch The Real Housewives of New Jersey. Additionally, the AFC is coordinating with Middlebury Dining Services to introduce authentic Italian and Irish cuisine. Showcasing solidarity with these two communities, Proctor will soon be serving a 'Penne and Potatoes' dinner.

Student Bitten by Mosquito Proceeds to Shuffle Off This Mortal Coil

In a tragic turn of events, Middlebury college student, Justin Mi, 20, unexpectedly shuffled off this mortal coil after a short fight with Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), according to Porter Hospital.

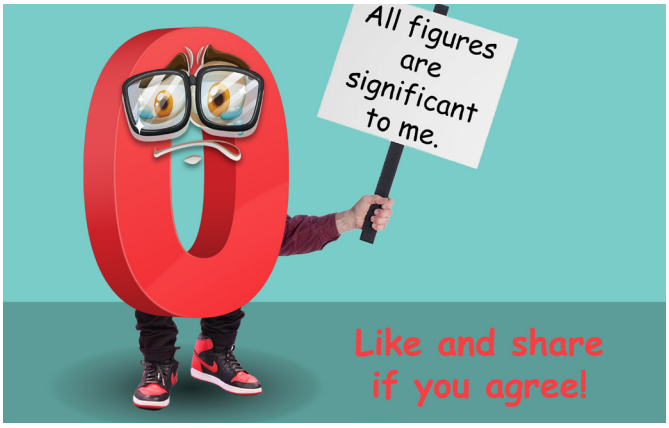
Mi, a sophomore majoring, ironically, in Microbiology, was enjoying a pleasant evening stroll through Battell Beach when he met his doom. A lone mosquito, the buzzing Grim Reaper, landed on Mi's unsuspecting arm and delivered what would ultimately be his one-way ticket to eternity. This particular winged fiend was carrying the EEE virus, which would ultimately draw the curtains on the play that was his short, miserable life. In order to find out the cause of this new outbreak, the Noodle reached out to local epidemiologist William Shatner (no relation), who has tracked down the source of the outbreak. Sarah "Horse Girl" Bridles '26.5 unintentionally sparked the EEE outbreak due to her close and passionate bond with her horse Seabiscuit. Their relationship has been described by classmates as "a little too passionate for cross-species relations," allegedly blurring the line between human and hoofed companionship.

Experts believe this ill-advised tryst has introduced the mosquito-borne virus to the entire campus. "We thought it was just the mosquitoes, but apparently, the real bug here was poor decision-making," said one baffled biology professor. While Bridles remains tight-lipped, Seabiscuit will soon be quarantined to prevent any further outbreaks.

Funny? We're hiring!

go/soaking/ for Photo Editors
go/joever/ for Staff Writers

Fall application cycle closes Sunday, 6 October.



The number zero, a notorious fuckboy, has requested this space in the Noodle to speak out against what he calls "unfair numerical standards."

Students to Professors: "Stop Queer Baiting"

Middlebury students are outraged following the recent revelation that a Gender and Sexuality Studies professor, who had been using the gender-neutral term "partner" for his spouse, actually has three biological children with a cisgender, white, middle-aged woman named Sarah.

"We can't let this keep happening," Intersex Anality '25, a member of the Queer Studies (and Weybridge) Houses, complained. "They're queer-baiting is what it really boils down to. Like with my Classics professors, there are some total gays, like Olivers-to-my-Elio-type options who have told us all about their 'partner' – who turns out to be some absolute rocket. I mean, what gives?"

"I'm constantly confused by the total lesbians in the Anthro department who wear loose-ass clothes but have husbands Domin Atrix '24.5, another member of the Queer Studies House, added. "How can you be quoting Sappho and then going back to your sixty-year-old, fly-fishing husband? I just don't get how this is allowed."

Striving for a culture of open and transparent communication on campus this year, Middlebury has decided to hear this call from QSH and not only require professors to display their pronouns, but also their sexual partner's pronouns, and favorite position in detail in all Middlebury-related communications. Coming up the ass of these recent developments, GSFS have expressed excitement to see their learning in the classroom be represented in the real world. Still, they remain cautious: "The ones who are actually gay are never the ones we would wanna be fuckin anyway."

"I'm Not Gonna Vote," Says Guy Who Sucks

In a groundbreaking revelation that surprised absolutely no one, Middlebury student Manny D'Oncare '25.5, a self-proclaimed expert on "stuff that actually matters, like Pokemon and weed" proudly announced that he will not be voting in the upcoming election.

"I don't vote because, like, what's the point?" D'Oncare said, leaning back in his chair and proudly adjusting his favorite "Rick and Morty" hoodie, a symbol of his unwavering commitment to apathy. "All politicians are the same, man. It's just a big game."

D'Oncare's stunning announcement comes at a time when others are busy researching candidates, discussing policy, and generally showing some level of concern for their future. Meanwhile, D'Oncare continues to be completely undeterred by the fact that every single one of his personal liberties, comforts, and general sense of security is impacted by government decisions.

"Voting? Psh. I'm good," D'Oncare continued, without a hint of irony. "I've got more important things to do, like listening to Joe Rogan. At least Joe talks about stuff that's real, you know? Stuff like sensory deprivation chambers and that guy who was kidnapped by Somali pirates. Medical Mushrooms and MMA actually impact the lives of average Americans like me."

When pressed further, he added, "Plus, nothing ever changes. Well, except for when stuff actually changes, but those changes are just what 'they' want." Upon further pressing, Manny refused to say who "they" were, citing possible government surveillance.

D'Oncare was last seen posting pro-weed legalization slogans and Andrew Tate clips to his Twitter account.

Students Returning from Abroad Seek MiddX Speakeasy

Students returning from study abroad semesters in various western European countries tore down MiddExpress yesterday in a fruitless bid to find a hidden speakeasy entrance.

"You don't even understand," said Frank O'Phile '25, who had just returned from five months of burdening Paris with his presence. "When me and my *amis* – that means friends, by the way – would go out in Paree, we only went to speakeasies. Like, you'd think you were in a Laundromat but then you go through a washing machine and you're in a jazz club. Or you'd say a special code to the cashier at a local deli and get into an underground rave. Or you'd give Jacques a hand job in an alley and he'd bring you to a totally legit poker ring. Stuff like that."

Unfortunately, when Frank and his friends tried to find the secret bar part of MiddExpress, they came up empty handed. "I don't understand," Barely Leegal '25 whined. "I tried twisting a Yerba Mate in the cooler like fifty times and got nothing." Leegal, who spent his spring semester kissing Dutch bitches and hand-rolling cigarettes in Madrid, feels similarly passionate about Middlebury's apparent lack of speakeasy. "Joder, tío. ¡Odio esta mierda de escuela!"

Displaced ex-pseudo-euro trash has been able to find solace in a support group, Veterans of Foreign Schools, which works to ease the pains of the difficult transition.

"We have already made a huge impact on campus," says Leegal. "I have successfully fought for and won my ADA accommodated daily siesta, Frank has been able to get marlboros in MiddExpress, and big things are coming. Why have a stupid health center when you could have a central-campus discotech?"

Ex-eurotrash sob pitifully outside of MiddExpress after failing to locate an underground rave on a Tuesday night.

Dorm Crisis Worsens: New Students Given an Apple Vision Pro, Eight Square Feet of Battell Beach, and a Dream

In a recent email, the Middlebury Administration has revealed that it is unable to find a material solution to the college's worsening dormitory housing crisis.

"There are just too damn many of you." says board member Weavef Uckedup. "If things keep going the way they have, we're talking Hep septubles, bunked bunk beds. Y'all are just going to have to all start sleeping in one big room like Little Orphan Annie, it's getting scary."

While the administration doesn't think the completion of the new dorm will change anything, they have crafted a new, high tech solution they believe will solve their issues. Starting with the class of 2028, incoming students will no longer receive tangible housing, but instead an Apple Vision Pro and eight square feet of Battell Beach.

Now, instead of a normal, boring dorm filled with stupid, corporeal things like a bed and a chair, matriculating students will be able to live in the virtual reality world of their dreams.

"When I go to my virtual dorm, Homer Simpson is my roommate, and I think that's pretty cool," said A.M. '28.

While some have complained about exposure to cold Vermont nights without the protections of a roof over their heads, others have found deep comfort behind the screen of their Apple Vision Pro.

"While sleep is scarce, I am comforted by the virtual warmth of my new girlfriend 0-25X-2A1," said Feodore Fombly '28. "They say it's risky to get into a relationship your freshman year, but the risk seems averted when she is programmed to never leave you."

Others have shared concerns for the psychological repercussions of the new policy, worrying that spending considerable time detached from reality could have damaging effects.

"Danger smanger," responded Uckedup. "Who cares about forgetting what the sun looks like when you can watch Family Guy in your mind."

Want more of this

Ungodly satire?

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Classics Major Gives it Out Pro Boner

In recent interviews of classics majors, a representative of The Local Noodle has found that classics majors aren't having sex–not because they're freaks, but because they're so good at sex they deserve to be paid for it. No one, it seems, can afford the cost.

"The classics department has a problem," said Gigah Dong '26, holding a cup of tea in one hand while masturbating with the other. "We're overfull, simply flush with fat cock – or 'Phallus Phatus', as Socrates 'The Tripod' of Athens would say."

Dodging a cumshot, our reporter leaned in, struggling to hear Dong over the sounds of animals having sex played over a string quartet.

"Quality freakism like that – the kind of bone we supply in the classics department – that just can't get dished out without payment, commutatio, cash exchange. What we offer is a higher-level erotic experience, an intelle-sexual en-spank-ment, if you will, and for that you've got to pay up–" Dong winks "–however you can."

After cleaning himself up, Dong reached into his leather carrier bag, revealing a Moleskine folio binder with clippings of human hair; beneath them, inscriptions teemed with vibrant, demeaning, and sensuous imagery.

"A survey of classics majors and many would-be conquests–" here Dong lifted the Moleskine to his nose, sniffing deep "–shows that many a classic cock lies in long wait –hibernation, if you will– simply because so few can afford the cost of our services. It seems everyone might have to start giving it out pro boner, at least until the word gets out." Here he shivered and spit into his hand.

"I know I am."

The meeting with Dong wasn't all – another classics major discussed toying with similar feelings at a departmental luncheon later that day.

"I live to fuck," said Praxus "The Penetrator" Thalassius '27, a self-described "expert on the Kama Sutra." He paused to pull his dick out of his toga before continuing. "I sling so much good good, I believe, like my peers, that I should – no, that it is just– that I be paid for my services."

Here, a single tear fell from his eye, which he caught and used to lube his nipple.

"Ah, but what of the pro boner doctrine? There's a growing sect of us who believe the classics must be democratized—our erotic enlightenment must be shared without cost, no matter the sacrifice. Call it 'ludus free love.' Let us spread it and spear it like Herodotus did history and syphilis: without borders or price tags."

Sushi Maru Sign Causes Controversy

Middlebury's new on-campus restaurant, Sushi Maru, has come under fire in light of a botched sign in McCullough. The space– formerly "Crossroads," a coffee and smoothie shop– is now facing major blowback as the Japanese text on Maru's sign is supposedly "way off the mark," says Charlie Weeb '27.

In an attempt to replicate the restaurant's English name, "**ペニス洗濯機**" is displayed on the sign, instead translating to "Penis Laundry-Machine." The botchery went two weeks unnoticed, because, according to the Director of Dining Services, Sam O'Nella, "only white people were eating there anyway." After this discovery, the restaurant is set to undergo yet another rebranding operation. Students will have to say goodbye to items like "The Vermont Roll,"—Maru's signature, syrup-coated California Rolls—Mt. Fuji Water (recycled Fiji Water), and the MiddKid Tempura (served with ranch).

Some upperclassmen may remember the failed conversion to a Chinese restaurant in 2022. The plan backfired, as the tentative menu similarly sparked controversy with its inclusion of "General So's Chicken" and "Bow Buns."

This campus gaffe heavily resembles an incident from 2021, when President Patton mistakenly tattooed "Charcoal Grille" in Japanese onto her arm intending to inscribe "Go Panthers." She ended up concealing the botched Japanese entirely with a full, Naruto-themed tattoo sleeve—a bold statement, to say the least.

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Oedipal Screw Goes Wrong

This Classics major has no idea that he's about to bang his mom, kill his dad, and gouge his own eyes out.

What sounded like a bad idea even on paper turned out to be a complete catastrophe this weekend when the Classics department surprised their students with an "Oedipus Screw."

Families from all over the country flew in expecting intimate Flatbread dinners or lovely apple-picking afternoons, but were instead greeted with commands to put on white linen robes and face-concealing masks. Then, department head John Plato Aristotle Socrates Smith, in traditional "screw" style, bound each student to their parents, fastening bottles of wine at the hands with Jute Rope instead of duct tape.

Inevitably, catastrophe ensued. "I can't believe I killed my father, slept with my mother, and then gouged my eyes out after realizing what I had done," Ettu Brute '27 said from behind two eye patches. He added that he now regrets skipping class the week his professor went over the major plot points of Oedipus Rex.

Controversially, students with divorced or widowed parents were only allowed to spectate the event from a remote cave. Classics co-chair Ben Aeschelus Euripides Sophocles Jones projected the silhouette of the party onto a stone wall opposite a makeshift seating area.

The simultaneous "Electra Screw" also saw a decent attendance turnout and particularly grievous matricides—most of which were stabbings, all of which were committed with historically accurate and notably priceless Greek "Xiphos" blades.

In the aftermath of the event, the Classics department has requested thousands of dollars for audiobook licensing due to an abnormal spike in newly-blind male Classics majors.

New Dorm to be Named in Honor of Saudi Prince Mohammed Bin Salman

President Patton showing Bin Salman around the new dorm, set to be completed in Fall 2025 thanks to his financing.

Last week, the Middlebury administration announced that the new dorm, currently slated to be completed in the fall of 2025, will be named after the Prime Minister and Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed Bin Salman.

Bin Salman, known internationally for his bloody suppression of free speech, may seem an unorthodox choice on a campus that espouses freedom of expression. But, as Chief Financial Advisor Mona Baggs explained in an exclusive interview with the Noodle, it all makes sense when you really think about it. "Mohammed Bin Salman's ideals are unrivaled, if what you mean by ideals is buckets and buckets of cold, hard cash." Adding that "the principles of Energy 2028 do not extend to the Middle East," Baggs explained that "Oil money was the only way to pay for a dorm that meets LEED certifications."

Apparently Middlebury isn't the only small liberal arts college the Saudi prince has been financing. Wesleyan, Bowdoin, and Amherst have also received similarly sized charitable donations. The Noodle's chief emissary to Saudi Arabia, Jeff (no last name given), identified these donations as part of a broader strategy to curry favor amongst young, out-of-touch American college students.

Bin Salman is expected to visit the Middlebury campus for the dorm's official opening next fall, though his visit comes with certain stipulations. No official news media will be permitted on campus during the event; only the Middlebury Campus will be allowed onsite. Said Jeff, "the Saudi Arabian government does not view the Campus as having enough of a spine to portray His Highness unfavorably."

Noodle reporters will not be allowed within five hundred feet of the event, due to what has been described as a "misunderstanding" between Bin Salman and its Editor-in-Chief, who has been missing since last Tuesday.

Nothing going on tonight? Don't worry, you can always
stand outside townhouses
Standing outside townhouses is a fun thing to do on a Saturday night
You will enjoy standing outside townhouses

Horse Respectfully Disagrees With You

"Neigh."